(ii) One-Time Settlement (OTS) for small and marginal farmers.

(iii) Fresh credit to farmers whose earlier debts have been settled through compromise or write off.

(iv) Loans for farmers indebted to non-institutional lenders.

RBI have issued guidelines to Commercial Banks on 24th June, 2004 and National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) to Rural Cooperatives & Regional Rural Banks on 29th June, 2004 to provide relief to farmers as per the announcement.

Intervention of RBI in bond market

712. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the RBI has intervened to stop the relentless fall in bond prices in June, 2004;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) to what extent RBI would intervene in the bond market;

(d) whether it is healthy in the long run for the RBI to intervene sporadically and without any long-term commitment to the market; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The RBI intervenes in the Government securities market through Open Market Operations (OMO). In June, 2004, no OMO was caried out. However, treasury bills with face value of Rs. 7230 crore were issued under the Market Stabilization Scheme to absorb excess liquidity in the system.

(c) to (e) The RBI intervenes in the Government securities market, as and when the need arises. The decision to intervene and extent of intervention would depend on various factors, including liquidity condition, price and yield movements of the Government securities and RBI's long term objective of developing a stable and efficient Government securities market.